

William G. Newsome Sr.
227 Rolling Hill Road
Elkins Park, PA 19027

January 15, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

Microsoft and the Department of Justice have reached a settlement in the antitrust case, which is currently in review. I find the settlement to be fair both to Microsoft and its competitors. Unfortunately, there are nine states on the review board whom do not feel the same. These states wish to continue litigation against Microsoft - to bring Microsoft to its knees, so to speak. I do not believe this is in the best interest of the economy, the consumer, or the IT industry.

Microsoft is the life- blood of the IT industry. It is very unfair to penalize them for their accomplishments within our free enterprise system. The terms of the settlement, however, would appear to allow for a great deal of rapid progress once implemented. Microsoft is willing to allow its competitors a great deal of access to the Windows operating system and pertinent intellectual property rights. Microsoft and non-Microsoft software producers will be able to interact and intertwine their technologies. Where there was division before, there can be growth and unity now. In other words, the government is asking Microsoft to kiss their ass and they are willing to do it!

I do not believe that any good can come of a prolonged suit against Microsoft. It has gone on long enough already. I urge you not to allow the tools of the federal courts to be misused and wasted.

Sincerely,



William G. Newsome Sr.
Veteran, Citizen, Registered Republican

cc: Senator Rick Santorum